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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Lou Della
4 Evans-Reid of Chicago on the occasion of her 80th birthday; and

5 WHEREAS, LouDella Evans Reid has a national reputation as
6 one of the most outstanding Ministers of Music this side of
7 heaven; her unique style of directing is majestic, as well as
8 powerful, and has enhanced the services at Fellowship
9 Missionary Baptist Church of Chicago for almost 55 years; and

10 WHEREAS, LouDella Evans-Reid was the only woman among the
11 five charter members of the Fellowship Missionary Baptist
12 Church of Chicago, where her brother, the eminent Reverend Clay
13 Evans, is the founder and Senior Pastor; she gave birth to the
14 church choir, served as its first pianist, and was appointed
15 Minister of Music in 1963; and

16 WHEREAS, She studied music during her childhood under the
17 late Kate Evans of Brownsville, Tennessee; she began to use her
18 musical ability by playing the piano for her church, the
19 Woodlawn Baptist Church in Brownsville, Tennessee; while at
20 Woodlawn, she also organized and led a youth singing group that
21 became so renown that they traveled throughout the area
22 rendering music; she also held a position of accompanist for

1 graduation exercises at her high school in Brownsville; and

2 WHEREAS, Her talents were well honed by the time she moved
3 to Chicago and helped found the Fellowship Missionary Baptist
4 Church; she is noted for arranging such notable gospel songs as
5 *New Name In Glory* and *Bringing In The Sheaves*, both of which
6 have been featured in musical recordings; and

7 WHEREAS, LouDella's musical excellence has been showcased
8 in many arenas, including over thirty musical releases of the
9 Reverend Clay Evans and the Fellowship Missionary Baptist
10 Church Choir, recordings of the National Baptist Convention,
11 U.S.A., Inc., and numerous choral concerts across the country
12 and throughout Europe; LouDella is known worldwide for her
13 moving renditions of hymns such as *It Is Well, Even Me, More*
14 *Love To Thee*, and *Close To Thee*; and

15 WHEREAS, LouDella is currently Minister of Music Emeritus
16 at Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church and Music Advisor for
17 the mass choirs of First Church of Deliverance; she also serves
18 as a musical consultant for church choirs and musical groups
19 throughout Chicago and the vicinity; in May of 2000, Lou Della
20 received an honorary degree, "Doctor of Humane Letters" from
21 the Arkansas Baptist College; therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

1 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
2 congratulate Lou Della Evans-Reid on her 80th birthday and wish
3 her continued good health and success for years to come; and be
4 it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to Lou Della Evans-Reid as a symbol of our respect
7 and esteem.